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REVIEWS

Pericla Navarchi Magonis sive Expositio Phoenicia Annis ante Christum Mille. Opus Francice scriptis Leo Cahun, in Anglicum vertit Helena E. Frewer, Latine interpretatus est Arcadius Avellanus. New York: Privately printed, by E. Parmelee Prentice, 37 Wall Street (1914). \$5.00.

This book narrates the voyages and adventures of a Captain Mago, an imaginary Phoenician navigator. I have not seen the original, or the English translation of the tale. The Latin version, however, is certainly entertaining, and the reviewer is deeply grateful to the translator for the pleasure which he has afforded him. The story is full of bold adventures, dashing fights, varied scenes, and human feelings. We meet many noted people, among them King David, King Solomon, the Queen of Sheba, Jonah, and Homer. There is a vast store of information about many gods, worships, beliefs, customs, and appurtenances of ancient peoples. We go to Carthage and Utica, Spain, France, England, Germany, around Africa, and back to Sidon.

This review, however, is concerned with the Latinity of the book. We read in the Introduction by Mr. Prentice, that it "has been translated into excellent Latin", and that "The Latin is not very difficult". The reading of this story has afforded me so much entertainment that I regret that it is not possible to give an unqualified approval to these opinions. Inasmuch as the book is frankly designed in criticism of current Latin teaching, there can hardly be any valid objection to a somewhat careful examination of the character of the Latin which is offered in its pages. Loose generalizations and affable commendations of the book have appeared in the press, but none of these exhibits any serious understanding of the content or style of the work. I wish to present a few facts as to its vocabulary and syntax, from the point of view of a classical teacher who is deeply concerned about the integrity of his work.

The gifted translator is apparently a devoted admirer of the *Metamorphoses* of Apuleius, and his style is, evidently, profoundly influenced by that of the African. But not even in his own day was Apuleius regarded as a writer of "excellent Latin". He was a Phoenician provincial, who learned his Latin *nullo magistro praeunte*, as he said, and who apologized for his defects in the use of the tongue of the Romans. He mingled ancient and modern, elegant and colloquial, poetic and prose words and constructions without compunction. Any student of Apuleius will recognize many of his eccentricities in the *Pericla Navarchi Magonis*, the vocabulary of which is drawn largely from the unclassical African of Medaura, or from later sources.

Desiring to be generous in the criticism of this translation intended for the young, I have investigated what would be the status of a reader who commanded the *entire* collection of words in Lewis's *Elementary Latin*

Dictionary. To be perfectly frank, we teachers would hesitate to claim a complete mastery of its contents, for it contains many rare words, yet even a reader of Dr. Avellanus's translation so well equipped would find this Dictionary disappointing him in the case of 534 words at least, for these I have sought there in vain. It will doubtless be admitted that this is a presentable indictment to bring against the suitability of the book for youngsters who are already struggling with the formidable vocabulary of their Classical texts. Adding to their burden is not lightening their task. A study of this list of 534 words reveals further interesting facts. Even the teacher who uses the big Harpers' Latin Dictionary would look in vain for words in this simple story to the number of 135. Unfortunately, the great *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae* is as yet available only midway through the letter D; yet this unwieldy aggregation of words fails to include 22 specimens from our translator within the limits of A, B, and C. Under these three letters he furnishes 20 words which the *Thesaurus* records as occurring only once in the vast range of its compass. Harpers' furnishes 8 more recorded but once. There are, furthermore, very many words which are extremely rare in the language, and many which no author in the College curriculum employs. Some Greek words appear in Latin spelling to mystify the students of 'small Latin and less Greek'. I wish there were space available here for the enumeration of the words that do not appear in Harpers', but that is impracticable. I will, however, mention a few *in addition to those not found* in that Dictionary, to show the extraordinary range of the vocabulary of this story. Not one of the following, I believe, can be found in the whole range of Cicero's orations:

abactor	catasta	magnatam
agea	cineraceo	marrae
ancones	coccineo	picarentur
anserini	coeliam	proxeneta
antecessum	cof (<i>sic</i>)	ramenta
apochae	consarcire	sabaia
asciculae	contribules	savillum
asciola	coriaceo	sceliones
assentatiunculis	crassitei	scopum
axillam	cuculliones	scordalos
betulae	dicteria	scriblitas
boatum	dissito	scrutillos
botulos	domnaedius	struthiocamelorum
bracteatus	ellyphnia	subgrundia
buculus	embolarum	titionibus
caepullarum	epistomia	tuceta
calae	ferruminata	urceatim
camas	flexivice	vehem
cambire	gagatas	veniliae
capillitio	grocatus	veredarii
capistrate	interscalmiis	vertiginosam
capronis	lixantur	vibice
casteria	lixula	vola, f.
catapirates	lora, f.	

Let me remind the reader that this list of samples is additional to the 135 not found in the big Harpers'. I marvel at the ingenuity displayed, in the discovery of many of the words in the book, for some of them are recorded as occurring only in a Glossarium.

In the matter of the form and structure of the language employed there is much to give the classicist concern. What, for instance, would be the effect on our students of the constant iteration of passive forms which our Grammars scarcely notice? For we find, commonly, *edita fuit*, *disposus fuit*, *domita fuerunt*, *positus fueras*, *gestum fuerit*, *praediti fuissent*, *usus fuisssem*, *avulsus fuisse*, *expertum fuisse*, *fore exercitaturum*, *baiulaturum fore*, etc. This is the Apuleian flavor.

In the matter of syntax it is necessary to present a miscellaneous collection.

postquam rex . . . admiratus esset (66¹); *postquam vidissemus* (83); *postquam invocassent* (96); *postquam tentassent* (145).

Schmalz declares that such a combination of *postquam* with the subjunctive is hardly to be accepted anywhere in good Latin. Hale says nothing; Burton ascribes such examples to corruption in texts; Gildersleeve-Lodge characterize the usage as "late".

ad liberandum nos (248); *ad prosequendum sacra* (258); *ad moderandum naves* (276).

There are instances of this construction from Varro and late authors: but why go counter to classical custom?

ab undis per complures dies iactati (229); *ab aquis sublevaretur* (230); *gaulus videbatur ab ipso vento agi* (285).

The preposition with the ablative in such phrases does occur in poetry or in emotional passages involving personification, but the use is surely not to be imitated in ordinary narrative prose.

oculos in aequore pascere (41); *oculos in furenti mari pascibat* (98); *oculos in navibus pascentes* (173); *oculos in mellitis libis pasceret* (179).

I know of no instance in Latin authors of *pascere* with *in* and the ablative.

Hand, Tursellinus, page 588, says: "Barbaries medii aevi nullo in vocabulo antiquum usum magis corruptam quam in *pro*". The following would appear to swell the company:

servos . . . pro singulis nostrum dona ferentes. *Pro me quidem scutum . . . tulerunt*; *pro Hannibile clavam*; *pro Bichri arcum*; *pro Hannone . . . gladium* (all within five lines, in one sentence, on 67); *locus idoneus pro templo ac pro castello* (165); *Barbari mihi pro eiusmodi facinore se praeparavisse videbantur* (247); *pascua erant pro regio pecore* (66); *telaee pannique pro me a rege missa sunt* (306); *pro omni eventu paratas* (306); *futurum ut se Deo pro reliquo vitae tempore devoturus esset* (17); *navigia pro itinere fluctibus committebantur* (19); *illi in miniscula pro uxoribus tradidi* (67); *pro comitatu duas triremes selegi* (8); *tubae cunctos nautas pro nocte convocantes* (171). What shall we do with our Grammars and our Dictionaries, if these expressions are Latin?

transversum humeros (24); *transversum Cabiros* (82).

¹The references are to pages.

I have met this prepositional use only in Dr. Avellanus's pages.

erga ternos utres (132); *erga aliquot gagatas* (112); *erga coralla* (141); *erga merces* (141).

These are used in talks about barter for the idea of 'over against', or 'in return for'. The Dictionary mentions no such meaning, though it does suggest the derivation.

On page 118 *sub itinere* occurs apparently for *ex itinere*. I have found no instance of *sub* with this word.

versus is used with any sort of noun, and with pronouns, as a preposition, and is placed before the word it controls; compare e. g. *versus ianuam*, *littora*, *urbem*, *molem*, *pagum*, *partem*, *camam*, *ripam*, *navim*, *urceum*, *devexa*, *terram*, *fenestram*, *nos*, *vos*, and even *crepusculum*!

Outside of vulgar inscriptions, only one instance of *versus* placed before its noun is known, and that is in the questionable *Bellum Hispaniense*. Our author appears to regard it as interchangeable with *ad*.

Twice we have *fac* accompanied by an imperative: *fac deduc eos* (208); *fac reduc nautas* (207).

Does anybody know such a collocation?

quaero eum (134) is unknown to me.

in gradum templi consedit occurs on page 8. The Thesaurus gives only two instances of the accusative with *in* used with this verb (and these appear in the *Acta Arvalia* and in *Optatianus*).

What of the use of the reflexive in *qui instar asinorum se ludificari perferamus* (14)?

littora appropinquavimus occurs on page 281. The Thesaurus cites no instance of the bare accusative with this verb.

In per nomen *EL Domino Exercituum* (47) what is the case of *Domino*?

On page 144 I find *sandalibus apicatis*. I know only *sandalium* as nom., but from that the form *sandalibus* is impossible. What *apicatis* means with it I can only conjecture.

On page 239 we find *rogos plures accendimus* of 'camp-fires' lighted for warmth!

On page 31 *modum habeto* is used in an address to a number of people, instead of the plural. The use of the future became general in Late Latin.

interea temporis occurs on pages 180, 209. Hand gives no instance of this combination, nor do the Dictionaries. In *vultu ad simulacrum conversus sacerdos* invocat (31), what is the construction?

Dii prospere . . . te navigare faxint (37) has an early and late look.

gratias agitare is found on page 186. Is this verb so used? Not in the Thesaurus, at least.

favete linguae is found on page 151, for 'be silent'. The ablative only is found.

On page 267 we read *pollicitus ut prima synthesis pararetur*. Where is this verb found with an *ut*-clause?

On page 213 we read *quam agre nos omnes Hannonem tam miserabili vice ereptum esse desiderari*. We can understand exclamatory idiom, but what of this?

What does the passive *desiderari* mean? *quam primum* and *primum quam* are found repeatedly in the sense of *cum primum* or *simul atque*, an extraordinary imposition on our Grammars.

On page 46 we read *Quanta gloria vestram peregrinationem cumulatam esse oportet!* This is said of something to come, a vulgar usage.

On page 159 we have *portum Bosrae novo conditae*. Is this for *nove*?

Sic itaque occurs on 198, and often, beginning a sentence. I do not recall the combination, but it may be late, even new.

The following examples are presented in the interests of the prevalent discussion of the subject of Sequence of Tenses:

Philistaeos tanta clade affecimus ut incolae vectigales facti fuissent (59); opto ut Iudex Gebal interesset (247); non capio quid simia prodesse posset (247); quid faceres si eo pervenires? (69. Apparently a 'future less vivid' is required in the text); satis erant grandia ut ex eis arcus fiant (107); spe se solabantur futurum ut Hestiam reperiant (161); tanta erat ut errassemus (246); reperimus . . . emunxisset ut nihil relictum esset (249); factum esse ut exterminasset (93). I refrain from further examples. Give us back our rules!

The following give a cast of the antique to the story, perhaps: *clangorem tubae me ab ea (navi) audire mihi videbar* (122); *me praefectum videri mihi videbar* (186); *me audivisse mihi videbar* (34).

Would anybody countenance these? What is the use of such cumbrous nonsense?

On page 79 we read *poteram vultus militum discernere, itemque eos esse armatos, triangulariaque scuta gerentes*. How can the present participle be used here after *-que*? *pugiones pendentes* (79) seems to be a case of nominative absolute, as in late Latin.

On page 90 *licet rapiebamur* occurs. This use with the indicative comes from Apuleius.

utut res se habeat appears on page 110. Is the subjunctive used? What Grammar mentions it?

On page 42 we have *cursum flectendum iussi*. Is this known?

coronis (-idis) is used for 'flourish' of a trumpet (248, 253); *serica*, f., is often used for *sericum*; *cubiculum* appears to be a 'living room' (60, 65, 10, 11); *pagus* for *vicus* (68 and often) is due to Apuleius. Like Apuleius, Dr. Avellanus is fond of *prorsus* (92 times), *prorsum* (18 times), *perquam* (48 times), and *alioquin* (often).

The less said of the spelling of the book the better. It has not even the merit of being consistently bad; but perhaps we are not privileged to throw stones while our own classical house has so much glass about it. The proof reading and presswork are so careless that doubtless many apparent errors are due to these causes. The book might have been made much shorter, and improved, by the omission of many dull passages, for instance the supremely impossible pages 94-95, 108-113, 149, 174-177, 184. Perhaps my readers would like to test their vocabularies on the following (176):

Hic, ad limina planitiei, in qua arx sita erat, amplum compitum reperimus, nautarum frequentia celebre. Ibidem, sub umbris arborum attegaia ac tabernacula circumquaque stant, in quibus edulia ac potus varii generis vociferatione perquam vivaci adventoribus paucis nummulis divenduntur, musica hic et illic accinente. In nonnullis attegiis coruscatores, ventriloqui, funambulones, alias mimi, ac scurrae otiosis offerunt diverticula; in adversa extremitate obsoniorum, cetariorum, oleratorum, bellariorum sunt tabernae cum macellis ac pistrinis, totumque est forum victuarium, ubi, ut nunc, nundinae servari solent, quo in loco ferae ebur, mancia, escae, dulciaria, fructus, caeteraque Libyae producta veneunt. Hic solent magnam partem diei homines omnis conditionis ac status, omnis aetatis, utriusque sexus catervatim exigere. Multitudo omnium generum promiscua hic congregatur, seque diversitat: musici illis concinunt, saltatores ac saltatrices choreas agitant; acrobatae, praestigiatore, magi, incantatores, ignivomi, suo quisque modo ad captandas geras lenocinantur; propolae et circitores capedula, cuculliones, crepidas, obstragula, cingulos, pugiones, crumenas, pugillaria, vociferando commendant ac venditant. Alii liba mellita, placentas, scriblitas, coptas, minutalia, botulos, tuceta, scrutillos, savillum, dodram, sabaia, coeliam, aliaque tragemata et potus algificos ac temeta ebriantia turbae praeterfluent, praesertim manipulis nautarum, modo ex alto egressorum, quorum balteos siclis tumere suspicabantur, stridula voce commendantes obtrudebant. Non quidem mihi in animo erat in hunc locum venire, sed vetusta quadam e iuventute consuetudine prope invitus horum gressus cum coctis meis direxi.

If anybody can imagine a lad in our Schools revelling in that stormy sea of terms, let him not be disturbed by any words of mine. It is to be regretted that this facile linguist has not found himself willing to subscribe to the world's judgment of classical usage. He has chosen to be a champion of late and decadent Latin, and finds it easy to flout the long established dicta of classical custom. To what end, other than a familiarity with the slipshod methods and habits of inferior writers, does this attitude lead?

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Porta Latina: A Reading Method for the Second Year. Fables of La Fontaine in a Latin Version. By Frank Gardner Moore. Boston: Ginn and Company (1915). Pp. xviii + 62 + lxii. 75 cents.

An 'Open Sesame' should readily swing this 'Gate', for it is fashioned only of the title page. The contents of the book consist of fifty Fables of La Fontaine, done into highly polished Latin—a most welcome addition to our fund of supplementary reading. We find here the work of a careful scholar, who is not averse to observing the usage of classical Latin. He finds ample vocabulary for his needs within the limits of classical authors. Only ten words have been noticed that are not in the Elementary Latin Dictionary, and of these four are simple diminutives, two are coined names, and one is the name Christus. So the language fits into our system of instruction. Of the syntax it need only be